advised for persons who suffer from any weakness in any of these organs.

Although situated in the tropical zone, Laos has regions where a climate like that of Europe prevails during several months of the year and where Europeans who were fatigued by their stay in the low plains or hot valleys might go each year to recover and regain strength and vigor.

We may mention, among other regions, the plateau of the Bolovens, which is recommended by Dr. Harmand, but especially the plateau of Tran-Ninh and the high valleys of the Hua-Pahn.

In Tran-Ninh and the Hua-Pahn, particularly from November to March, that is to say over a period of five months, the thermometer falls as low as nearly 2° and rarely rises above 25°.

[122] The morning, the late afternoon and evening, and the night are delicious on these plateaus, while the middle of the day is quite similar to springtime in the south of France. The air is healthy and dry, walking is pleasant and the views varied.

There are already European groups in Xieng-Khouang and Muong-Son, since these are province capitals. A few supplementary buildings would be enough to turn them into sanatoriums, without aiming at all that the word implies in the way of equipment, but merely at the establishment of rest spots where officials and colonists from other regions could spend a few months or weeks of healthful vacation time.

5. HEALTH SERVICE

Health service in Laos is in the hands of three colony physicians who direct infirmaries located at Khong, Vien-Tiane and Luang-Prabang.

In each of these infirmaries consultation and hospitalization services are provided for Europeans, civil guards, Annamite and Laotian interpreters and scholars, and for native employees.

The costs are partly paid out of receipts from payments made by the colonists and native employees for each day of treatment and, in Luang-Prabang, out of a levy on the Royal Treasury.

The Khong infirmary is equipped with an ice machine which supplies the needs of the medical service and those of the Europeans in the region, in return for a fee. The Vien-Tiane infirmary was to have received one in 1900, and it is to be hoped that Luang-Prabang will soon be similarly equipped.